

Full statement from Rick Heidner to the Better Government Association through a spokesperson:

"I only got involved in this project when it was half-finished and falling apart as a favor to Durbins, which is a tenant of mine at other locations. There was also going to be a separate gaming café there. Durbins asked me to step-in and I said yes to help them out and to bring some economic development to the area," said Rick Heidner. "After I signed the agreement, the Village decided it did not want a gaming café there anymore because of the nearby park. I readily accepted the Village's change in position regarding the gaming cafes. Durbins pulled out and I was left with the property. I am keeping my commitment to complete and lease the building, but this property continues to have its challenges and is less attractive than I originally anticipated."